

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #81B-7 Building Date: ca. 1871-1878
Building Name: The William H. Townshend House
Location: 12804 Windbrook Drive, Brandywine, Maryland 20613

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The William H. Townshend House is situated on a hill overlooking Windbrook Drive and a subdivision to its west, and a wooded area to the north and east. The house is a two story frame building, three-by-two bays with a two story, three bay shed roof north addition. The main block has a gable roof with a central cross gable and rests on a brick foundation. The three bay south (main) facade has central entrance with four-light sidelights over wainscot panels, and a four-light transom. A one story screened porch across the facade has chamfered wood posts and jig-sawn brackets. The porch wraps around the west side of the building and continues across the west facade, enclosing the west section. Windows on the facade are 6/6 double hung sashes with louvered shutters and plain wood surrounds. The house is sided with wood-grained asphalt shingle, painted white. The cross gable has a four light, round arch window. The east and west gable ends of the main block are one bay. The north (rear) facade is covered by the two story, three bay shed roof wing. The wing is set on a rusticated cement block foundation. There are two white painted, interior corbelled brick chimneys, one east and one west of the facade center on the shallow slope of the wing roof.

Significance:

The William H. Townshend House was built between 1871 and 1878 by William Henry Townshend, a farmer and member of a family of longstanding in southern Prince George's County. The house is still owned by members of the Townshend family. The house originally stood on a 225 acre farm. It now occupies one acre on the east side of Windbrook Drive with a subdivision to the west of the road. The house is a handsome example of vernacular farmhouses built in the County in the late 19th century. Characteristics it shares with houses of the period include its two story frame construction, rectangular plan, central cross gable and facade-wide one story entrance porch. The William H. Townshend house is unusual for its large size (it is a ten-room dwelling). It is in good repair and with its white color and red outbuildings situated on a hillside overlooking Windbrook Drive, it is a local landmark.

Acreage: 1 acre

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. 81B-7

Magi No. _____

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic William H. Townshend Houseand/or common William H. Townshend House

2. Location

street & number 12804 Windbrook Drive not for publicationcity, town Brandywine vicinity ofcongressional district 5state Marylandcounty Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u>X</u> no	<u> </u> military
			<u> </u> museum
			<u> </u> park
			<u>X</u> private residence
			<u> </u> religious
			<u> </u> scientific
			<u> </u> transportation
			<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Harold C. Townshend, Jr.street & number 12804 Windbrook Drive

telephone no.: _____

city, town Brandywinestate and zip code Md. 20613

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 1602street & number Main Streetfolio 582city, town Upper Marlborostate Md.

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and District Surveydate 1981 federal state X county local

depository for survey records

History Division - MNCPPCcity, town Riverdalestate Md.

7. Description

Survey No. G- 81B-7

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The William H. Townshend House is situated on a hill overlooking open fields to its south, and Windbrook Drive to its west. There is wooded area to the north and east of the house, and a subdivision to the west. The house is two stories, of frame, three-by-two bays. It has a rectangular main block with a two story, three bay shed roof north addition. The main block has a gable roof with a central cross gable and rests on a brick foundation.

The three bay south (main) facade has a central entrance with four-light sidelights over wainscot panels, and a four-light transom. There is a one story screened porch across the facade. Its chamfered wood posts and jig-sawn brackets are unpainted on the side facing outward, indicating that the porch screening was probably installed at the same time as the porch. The porch wraps around the west side of the building and continues across the west facade. Its west section has been enclosed. Windows on the facade are 6/6 double hung sash with louvered shutters and plain wood surrounds. The house is sided with wood-grained asphalt shingle, painted white. A cross gable centered above the entrance has a four-light, round-arch window.

The east and west gable ends of the main block are one bay wide. The north (rear) facade is covered by the two-story, three bay shed roof wing. The wing has 2/2 double hung sash windows on the second story and 6/6 windows on the first story, all with louvered shutters. The wing is set on a rusticated cement block foundation. There is a bulkhead cellar entrance in a third bay. There are two interior corbelled brick chimneys painted white, one east and one west of the facade center on the shallow north slope of the roof of the wing.

There are two outbuildings of modern construction north of the house, and two older frame sheds to the east. All of the outbuildings are painted red and in good repair. There is a large out-door dog pen to the east of the house.

8. Significance

Survey No. PG-81B-7

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history

Specific dates ca. 1871-78 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

#8.

The William H. Townshend House was built between 1871 and 1878¹ by William Henry Townshend, a farmer and member of a family of longstanding in southern Prince George's County². The house is still owned by members of the Townshend family. The house originally stood on a 225 acre farm.³

The house is a handsome example of vernacular farmhouses built in the County in the late nineteenth century. Characteristics it shares with houses of the period include its two story frame construction, rectangular plan, center front cross gable and facade-wide one story entrance porch. The William H. Townshend house is unusual for its large size (it is a ten-room dwelling), and for being owned by one family for over 100 years. It is in good repair and with its white color and red outbuildings situated on a hillside overlooking Windbrook Drive, it is a local landmark.

Notes:

¹ Tax Assessment, Prince George's County, 5th District, 1871, 11055; G.M. Hopkins Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington Including County of Prince George's Maryland, 1878, reprinted Prince George's County Historical Society, 1975, pg. 19.

² United States Census, Prince George's County, 5th Election District; Stones and Bones: Cemetery Records of Prince George's County, Prince George's County Genealogical Society, Inc., Bowie, Maryland, 1984.

³ Ibid. #1. Tax Assessments.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. 81B-7

See Footnotes #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1 acreMap 133C-4 p.39Quadrangle name Piscataway B

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting							Northing	

B

Zone	Easting							Northing	

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marina King, Architectural Historianorganization Historic Preservation Commission date August 1985street & number 14745 Govenor Oden Bowie Drive telephone 952-3921city or town Upper Marlboro state Md.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

1703585604
PA 81B-7

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
Common Name				
AND ORNAMENTAL				
William H. Townshend House				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER				
Windbrook Drive (East Side)				
CITY OR TOWN				
Clinton				
STATE			COUNTY	
Maryland			Prince George's	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME				
Harold C. Townsend, Jr.				
STREET AND NUMBER				
Windbrook Drive				
CITY OR TOWN			STATE	
Clinton			Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURT CASE, REG. INSTRUMENT NUMBER, ETC.				
Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER				
CITY OR TOWN			STATE	
Upper Marlboro			Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY				
None				
DATE OF SURVEY				
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITION FOR SURVEY RECORDS				
STREET AND NUMBER				
CITY OR TOWN			STATE	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a two story, frame structure with a three bay main (south) facade. The central doorway has side and transom lights; the flanking windows are 6/6 double hung sash. There is a central facade gable with a round-arched window. On the rear facade are two large internal chimneys.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | lasophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian	
ORGANIZATION M-NCPPC	DATE 1 Aug 74
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue	
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring	STATE Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature _____

Chain of Title

William H. Townshend House
P.G. #81B-7

#19305
27 May 1969
Admin. File

Catherine Clagett Townshend died intestate. Possessed a two-story frame dwelling, 6 rooms first floor, four rooms second. Termite infested, of little value. 29.78 acres on Floral Park and Thrift Roads.

1602:582
24 April 1953
Deed

Helen K. Townshend, widow of Edgar Clayton Townshend, to Harold C. Townshend and Catherine Clagett Townshend, his wife, 234 acres, all of the same land inherited from Edgar Clayton Townshend.

G.S.O. 2:192
23 May 1950
Will

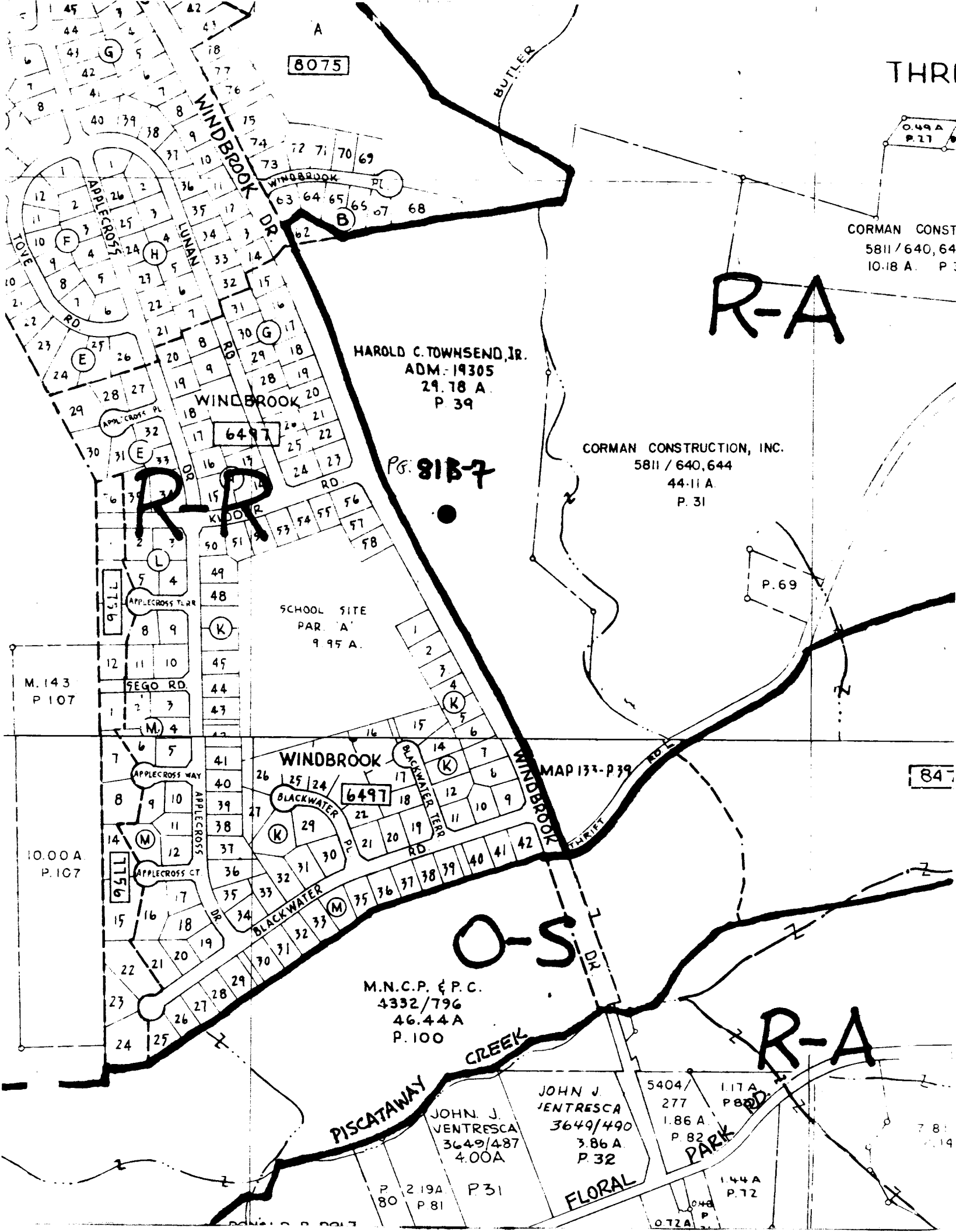
Edgar Clayton Townshend left all property, which included 166.9 acres in Brandywine district, to his wife Helen Kirby Townshend.

HB 6:1
6 Dec. 1871
Deed

T. Boyd Edelen and wife to William H. Townshend. For \$1 grantors give specific boundaries of a parcel they conveyed for \$1,800 on 13 Dec. 1870, H.B. 4:186 to Townshend. Parcel contains 100 acres, known as Leiper's Ford - begins where road Marlboro to Piscataway crosses Butler's Branch - bounded by land already owned by Townshend and etc.

H.B. 4:186
13 Dec. 1870
Deed

T. Boyd Edelen and wife to William H. Townshend. In consideration of Townshend's note, payable in 6 months with interest for \$1,500 plus \$300, grantor conveys a tract of land on north side of main road. Conveyed to Edelen by John Hamilton - 18 Nov. 1870, H.B. 4:118.



THRU

0.49 A
P. 27

CORMAN CONST
5811 / 640, 64
10.18 A. P. 3

R-A

HAROLD C. TOWNSEND, JR.
ADM. 19305
29.18 A.
P. 39

CORMAN CONSTRUCTION, INC.
5811 / 640, 644
44.11 A.
P. 31

PG. 81B-7

SCHOOL SITE
PAR. 'A'
9.95 A.

P. 69

MAP 133-P39

84

O-S

M.N.C.P. & P.C.
4332/796
46.44 A
P. 100

R-A

PISCATAWAY CREEK

JOHN J. VENTRESCA
3649/487
4.00 A

JOHN J. VENTRESCA
3649/490
3.86 A
P. 32

5404/
277
1.86 A
P. 82

1.17 A
P. 80

PARK RD

FLORAL

P. 219 A
80 P. 81

P. 31

1.44 A
P. 12

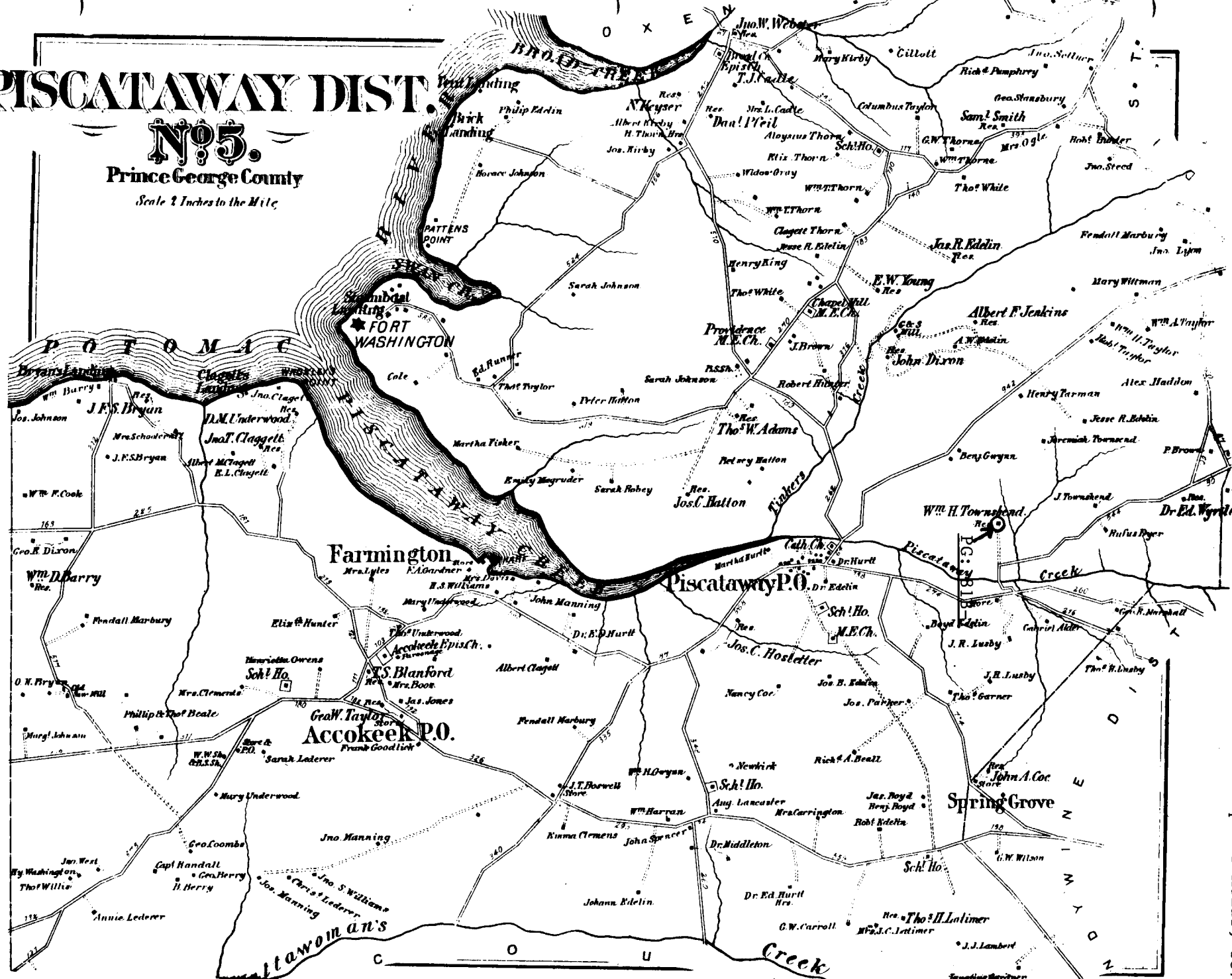
0.72 A

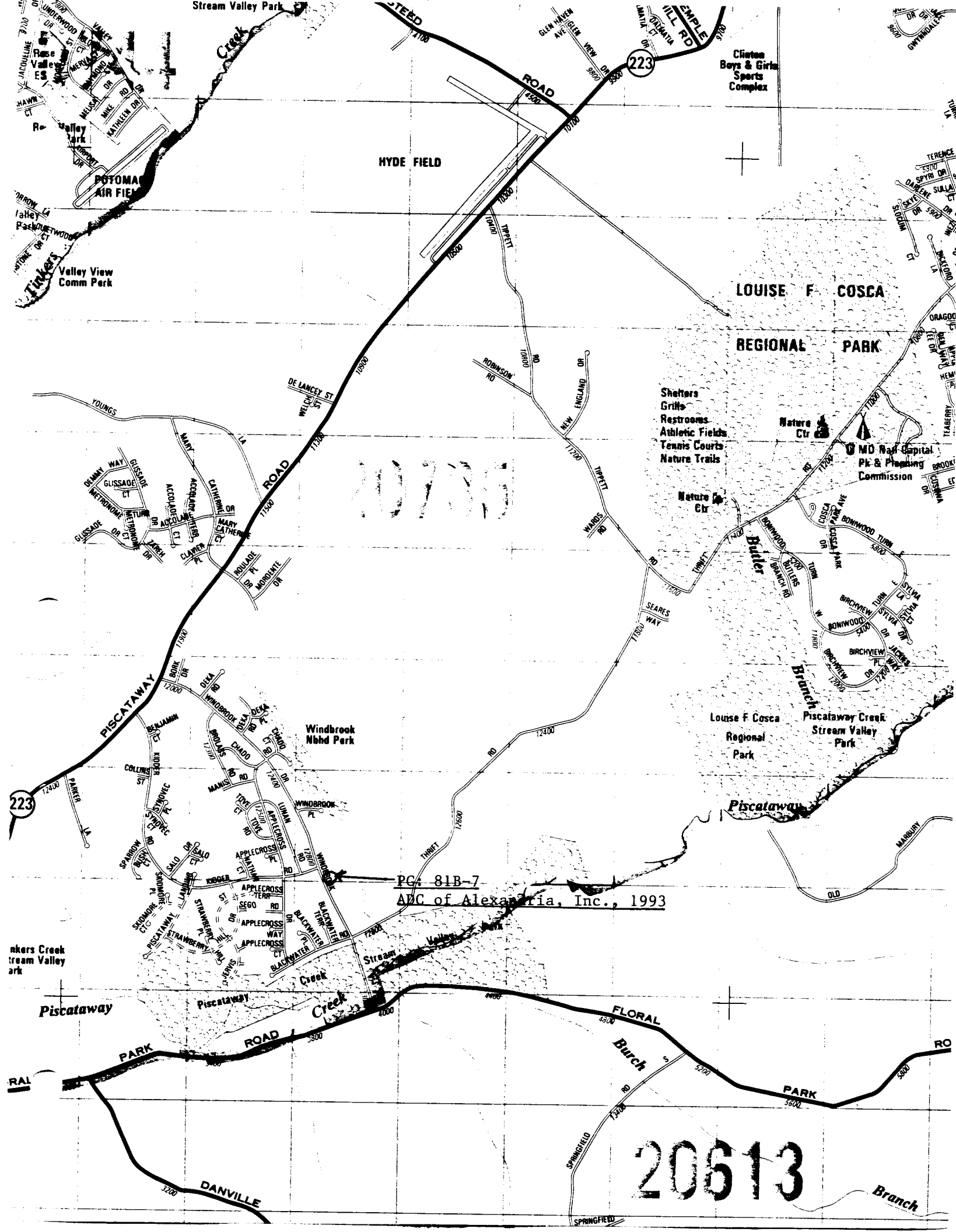
PISCATAWAY DIST.

No. 5.

Prince George County

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile





HYDE FIELD

LOUISE F. COSCA

REGIONAL PARK

Shelters
Grills
Restrooms
Athletic Fields
Tennis Courts
Nature Trails

Nature Ctr

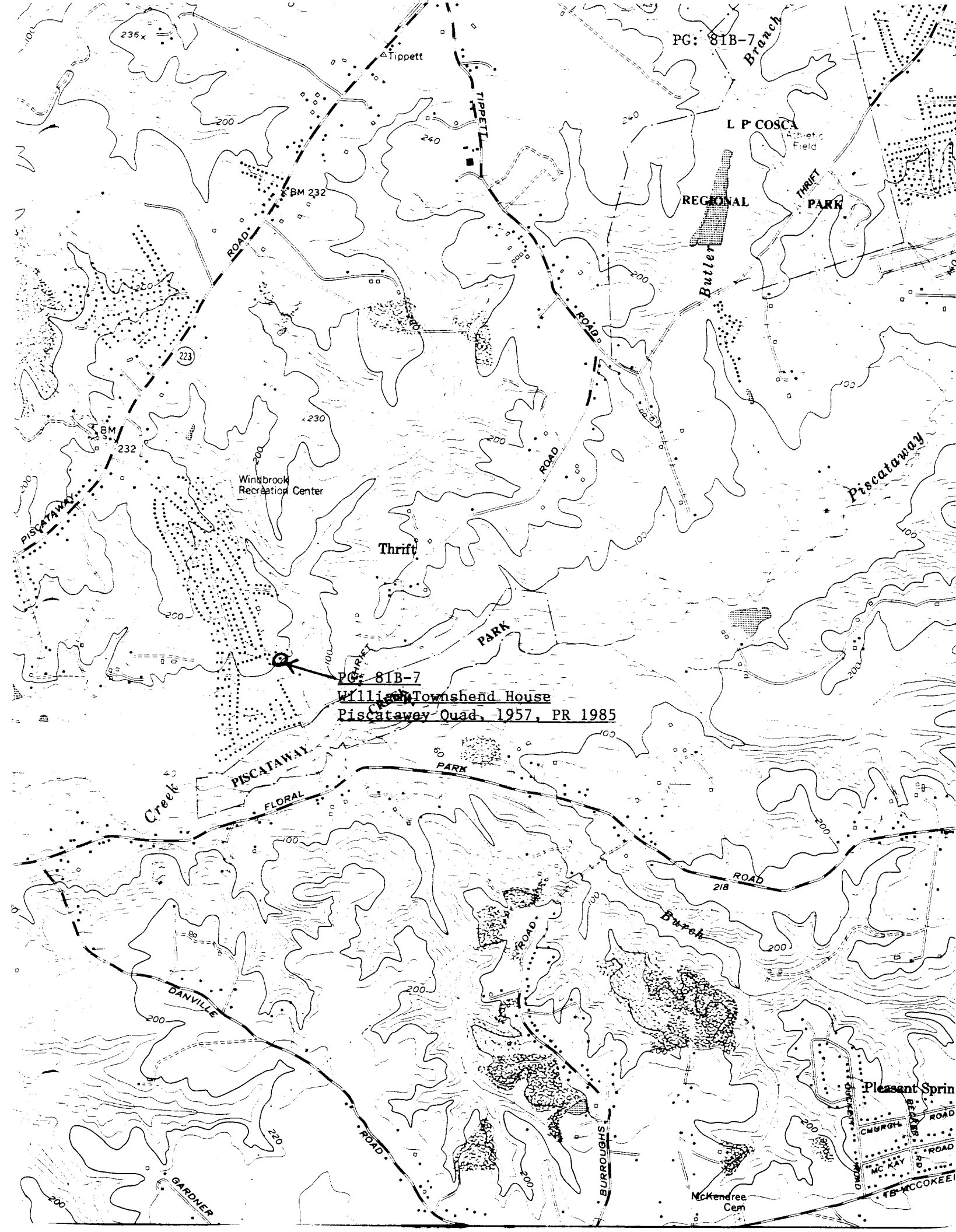
MD Rail Capital
Pl. & Planning
Commission

Louise F Cosca
Regional
Park

Piscataway Creek
Stream Valley
Park

PG: 81B-7
ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1993

20613



PG: 81B-7

L P COSCA

Athletic Field

REGIONAL

PARK

Butler

Piscataway

Windsbrook Recreation Center

Thrifty

PARK

PG: 81B-7

William Townshend House

Piscataway Quad, 1957, PR 1985

PISCATAWAY

FLORAL

PARK

ROAD 218

Burroughs

DANVILLE

GARDNER

BURROUGHS

McKendree Cem

Pleasant Spring

CHURCH

MC KAY

TB MCCOKEE



P. G. #81B-7

William H. Townshend House

Prince George's County, Maryland

Marina King

May 1985

South elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #81B-7

William H. Townshend House

Prince George's County, Maryland

Marina King

May 1985

Northwest elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #81B-7

William H. Townshend House

Prince George's County, Maryland

Marina King

May 1985

North elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



NAME	WILLIAM H. TOWNSEND	HSE	# 81B-7
LOCATION	WINDBROOK DR. PISCATAWAY, (CLINTON) MD		
FACADE	S		
PHOTO TAKEN	8/1/74 MDWYER		